

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 109429
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-07 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /028 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TPHY, NP

SUBJECT: SCIENTIFIC EXPERIMENT ON ANNAPURNA

REF: KATHMANDU 2170

1. SINCE NANDA DEVI INCIDENT, BOTH ARLENE BLUM AND DR. PARK HAVE BEEN CONCERNED ABOUT POSSIBLE POLITICAL SENSITIVITY OF LEAVING SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENT ON TOP OF ANNAPURNA FOR SIX MONTHS. PARK, MOREOVER, HAS RECEIVED NO RESPONSE FROM NEPALESE COUNCIL ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE REQUIRED SATELLITE WILL, IN ANY CASE, PROBABLY NOT BE IN POSITION TO RECEIVE SIGNALS FROM SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENT. PARK, THEREFORE, PLANS TO WITHDRAW HIS REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO HAVE INSTRUMENT LEFT ON TOP OF ANNAPURNA.

2. PARK WILL ASK CLIMBING TEAM TO CARRY WITH THEM AND BRING DOWN A SENSITIVE VOLTMETER, MEASURING 3 BY 3 BY 9 INCHES AND POWERED BY LEAD-ACID BATTERY, WHICH COULD ALSO MEASURE ELECTRICAL FIELD STRENGTH. BLUM SAYS TEAM WILL DECLINE TO CARRY VOLTMETER IF THIS WOULD OFFEND NEPALESE SENSITIVITIES.

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DR. PARK WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF EMBASSY BELIEVES PERMIT WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR SMALL VOLTMETER (ELECTRAMETER).

3. FYI: WE HAVE DISCUSSED PROJECT WITH PROF. HELLIWELL OF STANFORD RESEARCH LABS. ACCORDING TO HELLIWELL THIS SCIENTIFIC EXPERIMENT SHOULD CAUSE NO ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE.

VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MONITORING, SATELLITES, SPACE STATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 apr 1978
Decapton Date: 01 jan 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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